



SDMS DocID

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THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL



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James E. Holst
GENERAL COUNSEL

Writer's direct line: (510) 987-9734
E-mail: hope.schmeltzer@ucop.edu

September 8, 2005

VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL
(215) 814-3005

Harry R. Steinmetz (3HS62)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Re: Safety Light Corporation Site – Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Steinmetz:

This letter accompanies the initial responses of The Regents of the University of California ("University") to the July 21, 2005 information request concerning the Safety Light Site in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. The University appreciates EPA's courtesy in extending the initial response time.

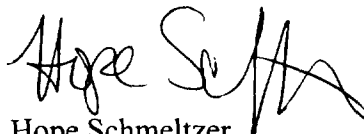
In providing the attached responses, the University has made a good-faith effort to locate and review documents relating to hazardous shipments at the UC Berkeley campus from the time period indicated. Because none of the documents located to date contained information responsive to the requests, copies of these documents have not been included with the attached responses. However, if EPA requires copies of the non-responsive documents reviewed, please contact me.

The University cannot and does not represent that it has located and reviewed all of the documents that may exist and that might be considered relevant by EPA, or its authorized representatives, as they interpret the information request. The University reserves the right to supplement its responses and produce relevant documents as they are located.

Harry R. Steinmetz
September 8, 2005
Page 2

The University is committed to cooperating with your office in responding to the July 21, 2005 information request and in answering any reasonable inquiry you may have concerning this matter. To that end, please call me whenever you have further questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hope Schmeltzer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hope Schmeltzer
University Counsel

gs

Enc.

cc: M. Freiberg
P. Goff

137869.1

University of California, Berkeley

Responses to the EPA Region 3 Request For Information Concerning the Safety Light Corporation Site in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

The following responses have been prepared on behalf of the Regents of University of California for the University of California, Berkeley campus (identified in the below questions and responses as, "Cal"). The responses are based on a thorough document search of shipping records and hazardous waste manifests, and databases containing information related to the shipment of promethium 147 and polonium 210.

The information is provided by:

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Associate Director, Hazardous Materials and Radiation Safety Team
Environment, Health & Safety
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317 University Hall
Berkeley, California 94720-1150
510-642-1925

Julia Ryan
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Paul Lavelly
Radiation Safety Officer
Environment, Health & Safety
University of California, Berkeley
317 University Hall
Berkeley, California 94720-1150
510-643-7976

Question No. 1:

Describe in detail the business relationship between Cal and Safety Light

Response No. 1:

Cal is unaware of any business relationship with Safety Light and has been unable to locate any documents evidencing or referring to any such relationship.

Question No. 2:

Did Cal ever transport and/or broker hazardous substances and/or radioactive waste or other wastes that were disposed of or reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal, Isolite to the Site?

Response No. 2:

To date, Cal has not found any records that indicate that it ever transported or had brokered hazardous substances and/or radioactive waste to U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal, or Isolite to the Site.

Based on the information attached to the EPA July 21, 2005 correspondence, Cal notes the following: The first and second ledger sheets seem to state that a 2 Curie promethium 147 (Pm-147) source was sent to Arizona Nucleonics Inc. in Tucson Arizona on April 20, 1961 for insertion into a SIG 250 gun for Dr. Krueger at Berkeley and returned to USRC Bloomsburg a month later. Pm-147 has a half-life of about 2.6 years. Since that date, this source would have gone through more than 44 years of decay or almost 17 half-lives. For a source with an original activity of 2 Curies, the present activity would be less than 0.002 percent of the original activity and presents no health or environmental risk.

The third ledger sheet references a 188 μ C Po-210 source, dated 2-21-67. Po-210 (polonium 210) has a half-life of 138 days. This source has decayed through more than 100 half-lives. At present, this source would contain no discernable Po-210. Typically, a Po-210 source of this size would be considered to be "gone" and no longer radioactive after about 4 years.

Question No. 3:

If you answered "yes" to Question 2, please answer the following questions:

Response No. 3:

Not applicable as we did not answer, "yes" to Question 2.

Question No. 4:

Did Cal ever generate radioactive wastes or other wastes that were disposed of or reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal, or Isolite at the Site?

Response No.4:

To date, Cal has not found any records that indicate that it ever disposed of any waste or had any waste reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal, or Isolite to the Site.

Based on the information attached to the EPA July 21, 2005 correspondence, Cal notes the following: The second ledger sheet seems to state that the Pm-147 source was transferred to "USRC" on 5/24/61. This source was a commercial product and would have been returned to the manufacturer which would have been in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer. Cal has no knowledge regarding this particular source; however, if the source was 2 Curies on 4/20/1961 and returned one month later, it is reasonable to assume that it was reused rather than disposed, and thus would not have been waste.

In addition, Po-210 sources are not disposed of by the users. They are returned to the license holder (or vendor) for the vendor to take the appropriate action of either reuse or disposal. Cal has no knowledge or information, however, regarding this particular source.

Question No. 5:

If you answered "yes" to Question 4, please address the following issues:

Response No. 5:

Not applicable as we did not answer, "yes" to Question 4.

Question No. 6:

If you have any reason to believe there may be persons able to provide more detailed or complete responses to any question contained herein, or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of such persons as well as additional information or documents they may have.

Response No.6:

Cal does not know of any person who can provide a more detailed or complete response. The Director of EH&S, UC Berkeley in the early 1960s was named Larry Schmelzer. The ledger sheet from Safety Light Inc. included notations from UC Berkeley at this time, and thus it may be that he has additional information. Cal does not have information as to Mr. Schmelzer's whereabouts. Should Cal later become aware of his whereabouts or other persons who could provide more detail, Cal will supplement its response to EPA

Question No. 7:

For each and every question contained herein, if information or documents responsive to this Information Request are not in your possession, custody, or control, then provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons from whom such information or documents may be obtained.

Response No.7:

To date, Cal does not know any persons who possess information or documents responsive to this Information Request that is not in the possession, custody, or control of Cal. Should Cal be able to make such an identification in the future based on information or documents not presently known or available, Cal will supplement its response to EPA.

Question No. 8:

If you have any other information about other party(ies) who may have information that may assist the Agency in its investigation of the Site, or who may be responsible for the generation of, transportation to, or release of contamination at the Site, please provide such information. The information you provide in response to this request should include the party's name, address, type of business, and the reasons why you believe the party may have contributed to the contamination at the Site or may have information regarding the Site.

Response No.8:

To date, Cal has no further information or knowledge of others who could assist the Agency in its investigation of the Site. Should Cal later become aware of such persons, Cal will supplement its response to EPA.

Question No. 9:

If any of the documents solicited in this information request are no longer available, please indicate the reason why they are no longer available.

Response No. 9:

Cal is not aware of any documents requested that were at some time available, but no longer exist. Cal retains records as required by laws and regulations.

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: September 9, 2005

TIME:

To:

NAME:	FAX NO.:	PHONE NO.:
Harry R. Steinmetz, EPA, Region 3	215-814-3005	

FROM: Hope Schmeltzer

PHONE: 510-987-9734

FAXED BY: Gloria Samson

PHONE: (510) 987-9972

RE: Attached

NUMBER OF PAGES WITH COVER PAGE: 8	ORIGINAL WILL BE SENT BY MAIL
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Message:

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THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO BE A CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION, subject to attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or other privilege, and is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. **IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT**, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. **IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR**, please notify us immediately by telephone at (510) 987-9800 and return the original message to us via the United States Postal Service. We will be pleased to reimburse you for any costs you incur in notifying or returning the message to us. Thank you

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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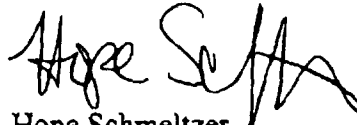
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09 09 05 14:27 JG GENERAL COUNSEL (2) 4 215 814 3885
101 4 1000 006

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